All the Men of the Lutheran Church for the Whole Task of the Church

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NOVEMBER 1946

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Number Eleven

Lutheran . . . Men

Published monthly at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, by
The Brotherhood of The United Lutheran Church in America

Fifteenth Biennial Fellowship Banquet

Held in the Masonic Temple, Erie, Pa., October 3, 1946

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LUTHERAN MEN . . . NOVEMBER

Vol. XXVII **Issue No. 11**

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FELLOWSHIP BANQUET

A joyous company of delegates and visitors filled the spacious banquet hall in the beautiful Masonic Temple, Erie, Pa. on Thursday evening, October 3rd. The Fellowship Banquet was a memorable occasion with editor Traver serving as Toastmaster. The address of the evening was given by Dr. Millard F. Gladfelter, Philadelphia, Pa., Provost of Temple University. His topic, "An Inventory for Christian Stewardship" provided the basis for a stirring message on the secularism of public charities and modern education.

Seated at the speakers table reading from left to right were: Harold D. Foster, Mrs. Harold D. Foster, Rev. Paul C. Empie, D.D., Rev. J. H. Reble, D.D., Rev. E. Maclay Gearhart, D.D., Dr. Millard F Gladfelter, Judge Lawrence F Speckman, Rev. Amos J. Traver, D.D., Rev. H. Reed Shepfer, D.D., Mrs. H. Reed Shepfer, Rev. John E. Bermon, Rev. A. E. Iverson, D.D., Harry A. Fritsch, Mrs. Harry A. Fritsch.

A Young Man's Prayer

God, make me a Christian man!
Give me the strength to stand for right
When other folks have left the fight.
Give me the courage of the man
Who knows that if he will he can.
Teach me to see in every face
The good, the kind, and not the base.
Make me sincere in word and deed.
Blot out from me all sham and greed.
Help me to guard my troubled soul
By constant, active self-control.
Clean up my thoughts, my speech, my play,
And keep me pure from day to day.
O make of me a Christian man!

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The editor's experiences at Erie were somewhat hectic. Having engaged the N. L. C. News Bureau for publicity and for the preparation of Convention Highlights Secretary Bader had wiped these responsibilities off the slate. When no one appeared to carry these duties the editor was drafted. In spite of a newspaper strike in Erie, news reporters were on hand. In fact they had so much time on their hands that they gave more than usual attention to our convention. In addition there was a story to write for The Lutheran and another for LUTHERAN MEN. A mimeographed story of the convention had to be ready to give the delegates as they left. That was rushed out by writing a paragraph in long hand and giving it to the typist to be stenciled. The result left much to be desired (at least by the editor) in the accuracy and completeness of the Highlights. The worst slip was on the last page, done while delegates stood about waiting to get it. Retiring president Lawrence Speckman was recorded as giving a "stormy" appeal for the support of the new administration by the men. Of course it was "stirring." The retiring president is a Brotherhood enthusiast from the ground up. He is earnest and forceful in urging every change in program that his experience shows to be of help to the Brotherhood movement. There is not universal agreement with some of the changes adopted, particularly in the matter of finances. But the convention voted overwhelmingly for it and every delegate is pledged to make that annual roll call work.

The Editor's Personal Paragraphs

A true religion never is in the way of anything a man ought to desire.—Beecher.

●

Lutheran men are practicing fellowship across synodical fences. One splendid organization working toward this end is The Intersynodical Lutheran Brotherhoods of Omaha and Vicinity. A September rally was held at Pella Church with Rev. Lawrence Acker of First Church the speaker. Seventeen churches were represented. The reformation rally speaker was Dr. R. R. Belter. William F. Kedde of our executive committee is one of the leaders in this movement.

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Artful dressing and a smooth paint job will take twenty years off her age, but you can't fool a long flight of stairs.—Religious Telescope.

●

Brotherhood News from Minnesota carries the paragraph below and we are not too modest to print it. Governor's read LUTHERAN MEN and like it! Thanks a lot!

When is a good time to start a subscription to LUTHERAN MEN? NOW before you forget it. You will be repaid many times. Dr. Traver puts in a lot of good jokes and the paper is the real thing. A page on BOY SCOUT work. A page of suggestions for the Brotherhood Topic for the following month. Additional information that is valuable to any man. Governor Thye said that his first issue had given him a complete speech which was worth much more than his subscription cost. You will profit also.

"Father," cried the quite indignant daughter, "you should have told me you had the garden bench painted. Last night Bob and I sat on it and he got paint on his trousers."

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Illinois Synodical Brotherhood is working on a $100,000 revolving fund for home missions. Under the dynamic leadership of President Fred T. Galitz it is proposed to raise $10,000 each year. More power to Illinois!

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"For a long time," confided Mrs. Gadabout to her friend, "I couldn't imagine where my husband spent his evenings until I happened to come home early one evening,—and there he was."

●

Vital leadership is assured for the ULCA by the reelection of Dr. Fry and Mr. Beisler as president and treasurer, and the election of Dr. Reinartz as secretary. Dr. Greever has set a high standard for the office of secretary. He did many things well. Recording minutes was but a minor responsibility. The church knows and trusts his successor too. God always finds leadership for His church. They can count fully on the Brotherhood for loyal support.

●

"Pa," said the subscriber's little daughter, "I know why editors call themselves 'we'."

"Why?"

"So the fellow who doesn't like an article will think there are too many for him to lick."—Advance.

●

Chaplains with armies of occupation are finding their contacts with pastors and lay leaders of the native churches a means for real service. In Germany, for instance, they are interesting themselves in the problems of reconstruction. They are discovering that the church is the most powerful stabilizing influence and they can effectively help accomplish the purpose of occupation by helping the pastors.

●

And do you have any religious views," asked the lady of her new maid who had just arrived.

"No, ma'am," she replied, "but I have some fine snapshots of Niagara Falls and the Great Lakes."—Biblical Recorder.

Be True

By HORATIO BONAR

Thou must be true thyself,
If thou the truth wouldst teach;
Thy soul must overflow. if thou
Another's soul wouldst reach!
It needs the overflow of heart
To give the lips full speech.

Think truly, and thy thoughts
Shall the world's famine feed;
Speak truly, and each word of thine
Shall be a fruitful seed;
Live truly, and thy life shall be
A great and noble creed.

●

Power for Peace
by Dr. O. Frederick Nolde has just come off the Muhlenberg Press. It is a study book wonderfully adapted for the use of men's groups. Dr. Nolde played an important part in the movement to make the influence of the churches felt in organizing the nations for peace. He assisted in the preparation of the reports of the Commission for a Just and Durable Peace of the Federal Council. He worked closely with the church leaders who set up the Delaware and Cleveland study conferences. He was an observer at the organization meeting of the United Nations. He is now as noted in last month's LUTHERAN MEN, assistant director of the World Council of Churches' peace commission.

He is by training an educator, accustomed to prepare materials for class use. We are not surprised, therefore, to find *Power for Peace* a factual presentation of the present situation in world organization and a text book with workable educational procedures. As the trustee of power for peace, the church, Dr. Nolde believes, must be responsible and informed. The use of this text will mean understanding of the United Nation charter, its methods of procedure, its faults as well as its virtues. He is completely right in saying "The extent to which the churches meet their responsibility in promoting world order will be determined largely by the interest and activity of individual Christians." It is to secure this in your congregation that the use of this text is recommended. If the Christians of the world would study *Power For Peace* the hope for peace would be immeasurably brightened.

Secure your copy for $1 from our Publication House.

Dear Unkie: Do you file your nails regularly?—Doris

Dear Doris: No, dear, I just cut them off and throw them away.

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Pastor Niemoeller's
first American address will be before the Federal Council of Churches in Seattle. December 3-6. Dr. F. E. Reinartz, newly elected secretary of the ULCA and the editor will be ULCA commissioners at this convention.

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Work hard and save your money, and when you are old, you can have the things that only the young can enjoy.—Spatters

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Reformation Day, 1946
marks the first general Protestant observance. The Federal Council of Churches provides programs and preaching suggestions for all who want them. The mother church of Protestanism should take pride in this recognition.

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We know a man who must be very lonely: he is the only man who is right on every subject.—Christian Advocate.

●

"To Thee We Sing"
by Catherine and Frank Herzel is a valuable addition to the extensive library of hymn stories. It is keyed to the question put by "young Chris" to his dad—"Why do we sing hymns, anyway?" The chapters generally have the historical or biographical approach. The authors seek to attach interest to the hymns by supplying interesting stories of the writers. Vocabulary and style are suited to juniors and intermediates. It would make a splendid gift book. It will also be of aid to those who must make formal talks to children. It is published by Muhlenberg Press at $2.

●

A young lady teacher in the Sunday school was giving a talk on thankfulness for the blessings received each day, and how we ought to return thanks to the Lord before each meal.

To illustrate, she turned to Johnny, whose father was a deacon and a shining light in the church, and asked: "Johnny, what is the first thing your father says on coming to the table?"

"He says: 'Go slow on the butter, kids! It's 95 cents a pound'."

The Convention Story

For the first time within a decade the ULCA Brotherhood met in other than the ULCA convention city. Because another convention had engaged all the hotel space in Cleveland immediately before the ULCA was to meet there, the Brotherhood had to move. The Lutherans of Erie, backed by the Pittsburgh Synod Brotherhood were willing and gracious hosts. The entertaining committee led by the chairman Mr. W. E. Pfister missed no detail of good hospitality. Boy scouts were on every hand eager to run errands or to do anything that would help. Only 79 delegates and 52 visitors registered, but attendance of local men kept the convention hall well filled. A newspaper strike hampered publicity. But for constructive work done and good fellowship this 15th Biennial Convention will be remembered as one of the best.

The opening service was in Luther Memorial Church, Dr. E. Maclay Gearhart, pastor, Wednesday evening October 2nd. This well appointed church was host to the U. L. C. A. and Brotherhood in 1928. Two messages were impressively given at this service. Dr. F. C. Fry briefly pointed out the timeliness of the Brotherhood program. He noted the fact that our U. L. C. A. record was the lowest in percentage of growth of any American Lutheran body—1.3%. Augustana gained 4.8%. He stressed the need for a new emphasis on evangelism. As for youth work, he told of the tragic state of European youth, citing his experiences in Germany. One youth said to him "There is no future worth being worthy for." The need for stewardship is shown by the fact that we are only now getting back to our giving percentages of the early 1920's in spite of our cheapened money and larger incomes. There is too a unique call for Christian citizenship. "Every other key to the door of recovery is being tried when Christianity has the only key." He quoted a German pastor who likened the world to a victim of tuberculosis. He must heal himself from within and he must have a clean atmosphere in which to live. We must precipitate the dirt from the world atmosphere as well as encourage the healing processes of men's souls.

Dr. O. Garfield Beckstrand, beloved pastor of Trinity, Rockford, Illi-

nois preached the sermon from Titus quoting Paul's command "To further the faith." Men need (1) to improve the quality of the faith, to become spiritual in a worldly world; (2) to be concerned about improving their works, the best demonstration to the world of their faith; and (3) to fight more valiantly against the sins that characterize our times.

It was a service to remember, not only because of the messages, but the beautiful setting, the glorious music of the choir, and the hearty masculine voices sharing in the service and hymns.

The first business session was opened in the prescribed form by President Speckman. Dr. J. H. Reble, President of the Canada Synod gave the first in an inspirational series of devotionals. It was an appeal for seeking the source of power for rebuilding for Christ in the Holy Spirit. He emphasized evangelism. "Early Christianity won by the supreme quality of the life it produced. Wesley's revivals saved England from having a French revolution."

The convention was organized by appointment of the usual committees and addresses of welcome were given by Mr. William E. Pfister, chairman of the local committee and Hon. Charles R. Barber, mayor of the city. The mayor came in person and quoting from the address of J. Edgar Hoover before the American Legion, called on the Christian men to defeat communism in America by their practice of faith. Mr. H. E. Isenhour of Salisbury, N. C. a former president, responded graciously. He noted that in 1928 when the Brotherhood met in Erie there were 5600 enrolled. In 1946 there are 22,000.

President Speckman's report covered the varied responsibilities of his office. It is to be noted that he attended every meeting of the administrative, executive and scouting committees, travelling, as do all the members, at his own expense. Extracts from his report are carried in October LUTHERAN MEN. Several amendments to the constitution and by-laws were proposed. The most important from a practical standpoint, was for a change in financial base. This proposal, which was adopted, discards the graduated dues scale for a $1 per member roll call to be conducted on Brotherhood Sunday or at some other time acceptable to the local Brotherhood. This would mean an elimination of other appeals for support of the organization expenses. Since there is a deficit of about $5000 the convention seemed ready to try a new plan. The income has greatly increased but the work of administration and its costs have increased more rapidly. For instance, increased paper costs for LUTHERAN MEN are running $85 per month. For the present the Anniversary Offering will be continued and special gifts from individuals solicited.

He recommended reducing the objectives to three under which all the present program will be listed (1) Evangelize (2) Educate (3) Energize. His paragraphs described the moves toward Lutheran union by men from all the general bodies.

The report of the treasurer Ira C. R. Guldin was received. He could not be present in person because the head of his firm was a delegate to Cleveland.

Secretary Harold D. Foster gave a full account of all the meetings of the various committees. His report on LUTHERAN MEN showed 8277 paid subscriptions, with 693 complimentary copies going to chaplains, Lutheran institutions, missionaries, ministerial students and the like. Later action raised the subscription price to $1.50. There are 608 Brotherhoods paying dues. Twenty-four synodical organizations are affiliated. Inquiries for organization literature are greatly increasing. Both Secretary Foster and President Speckman have served the constitutional limit of 4 years.

Secretary Earle Bader reported. Since there was some duplication in information in the officers reports, the following only need be reported here: More than 600 Synodical and Conference leaders are now in service. Thirty items of literature are available from headquarters. Four hundred organization packets went out in 1945. One hundred forty seven new locals were established in the biennium.

An extended report on scouting was given at a later session by chairman Harold D. Foster. Mr. Bader reported 872 Scout Troops; 177 Cubs; 11 Sea Scoutships; 7 Explorer Troops; 7 Air Squadrons; 10 Explorer Patrols —Total 1112 units. Four more troops had been reported since these figures were compiled. 143 Scout Troops and 96 Cubs were organized since the Minneapolis Convention.

A new emblem, uniform excepting for the name of the general body, was adopted by all Brotherhoods in the Federation. This will now replace the old emblem. The lay workers are also now placed in the lay pension plan of the U. L. C. A.

Editor Traver of LUTHERAN MEN and Editor Getz of the Topics reported briefly. The former report is carried in full in the October issue of LUTHERA MEN. The latter can be found on the Executive Secretary's page in the same issue. Editor Getz is chairman of the inter-Lutheran topics committee and was commended for his leadership in this work.

Rev. Royal E. Lesher who has succeeded Dr. Carlson as Director of Evangelism for the Board of Social Missions spoke earnestly for visitation evangelism under the topic "A Big Job for Big Men." His address was full of sobering statistics. Repeating the warning of Dr. Fry as to the slowness of our growth, he spoke of the nearly one half in America with no church relationship; of the 32% lapsed members—for every 2 active there is 1 inactive; of the empty church pews—there is not seating for half our membership, yet our churches are not full and of the one third attending who were men. "Our task is to go out, ring door bells, tell our neighbors what Christ means to us." The North Carolina Synod is conducting a Synod-wide program of evangelism this fall.

The afternoon program, Thursday, was opened with a devotional by Dr. Reble stressing the care of our youth. It was followed by a stirring address by the new Director of Protestant Relations of the Boy Scouts of America Rev. A. E. Iverson. He was formerly executive secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Brotherhood.

Scouting under church direction ties the Christian layman to his church, to his community, to the boys. The Boy Scouts of America find the new relationship a wonderful opening to more and more leadership and it allows the boys religious training under the only auspices that can give it| The churches find the new relationship offers an attractive program for boys, a missionary agency finding boys and their families for the Sunday School and church, an agency for education to integrate with the parish program, The Pro Deo et Patria award is a church award, given for

church-set requirements. These include private devotions, attendance at church and Sunday School, knowledge of doctrine, knowledge of the Church Year, knowledge of the worship service, 150 hours of service to the church, and a special project approved by the pastor. Following the address this award was given in colorful ceremony to Mr. John Howard, a councilman in Trinity Church, Meadville, Pa. A large number of local scouts were present to assist.

Lutheran World Action has been one of the major interests of the Brotherhoods. Dr. Paul C. Empie spoke optimistically as to the results of the $10,000,000 appeal and thanked the Brotherhoods or their acttivity. He pictured the needs of the world and called for even greater efforts to meet them before time ran out.

The Fellowship Banquet is the one opportunity for relaxation at Brotherhood conventions. This banquet was no exception. Men like to sing. The Uthmann Chor led by Mr. James H. Cross, an all man chorus, was very enthusiastically received. The editor of LUTHERAN MEN was toastmaster and the address of the evening was given by Dr. Millard F. Gladfelter, Provost of Temple University. Dr. Gladfelter said:

"An inventory for Christian Stewardship would not include assets and liabilities but assets and opportunities. The opportunities are the services and functions that laymen can perform through the church that will bring you social and economic life in accord with Christian principles.

The millions who seek the El Dorado of the sixteenth century Spaniards are recognizing economic security as the end in life. It is our opportunity to bring them into the church so that they will know that economic security and spiritual strength are not synonomous but companion terms.

The highly organized secular administration of public charities will ultimately rob the church of much of its opportunity to minister to those in need unless churchmen actively direct public charities and resolve at the same time to extend the influence of the church and its organization in its immediate social community.

We have an unmeasurable opportunity in religious education. It lies not in a weak attempt at Biblical teachng to the few who take advantage of released time. This opportunity comes through an extension and revitatization of the material, staff and facilities of the Sabbath School and our readiness to study the values of the Parochial School if public funds should become available for private schools. To cover these opportunities we have tremendous assets. They include a church heritage which is rich in service, wide in influence, and mpressive in accomplishments. We have a climate for church fellowship which extends to the uttermost parts of the earth. In a quarter of a century our American church membership has risen from 25% to half of our population. The stewardship of church laymen has met every financial goal set for world restoration and action. And, most important among our assets in these critical times, is the dynamc and intelligent leadership of the President and the clergy in the United Lutheran Church."

Dr. Clarence Stoughton spoke on Christian Stewardship at the Friday morning session. He said:

"The greatest reservoir of unused power in the church today is not its money-power, but its man-power. It is a vast, potential—but largely unused.

Three reasons, perhaps, explain this strange situation: a church with pressing demands and needs and yet not calling upon the power that lies within it, waiting, but unused!

Our membership, first of all, is uninformed. We do not know our church —its accomplishments, its purposes, its aims, its stength. An uninformed membership is an unintelligent membership, and an unintelligent membership is one of weak deeds.

We have not been asked, secondly, to deliver our power. We have been asked little things. Our goals have been small: our aims low. Full power will not be delivered until full power is demanded!

And, finally, we, as members, have lost our sense of the oneness of our task. "This one thing I do"—bring men to a fuller understanding of Jesus Christ and His love. It is all involved in a wider, more effective practice of our religious stewardship."

The American Bible Society was represented by Dr. Orlando Ingvoldstad of the Chicago office. He gave many illustrations of the emergency shipments of Bibles immediately after the end of the war. Bibles in German were printed during the war in Sweden and Switzerland. 100,000 Bibles were ready for immediate shipment into Jajan after V-J day. Dr Ingvoldstad also asked support for the Thanksgiving to Christmas Bible reading program again this year.

Election of officers resulted as follows: President, Zeb B. Trexler; Vice Presidents, Harold D. Foster, Martin McGrory and W. Don Morton; Secretary Wm. K. S. Hershey; Treasurer, Wm. Shetlock; Executive Committee—Term ending 1952, Lawrence F. Speckman, Harry A. Fritsch and Rev. Fred Wiegman, D.D. Term ending 1948, Wm. F. Kedde. They were installed by the chaplain at the closing session.

A solemn memorial service was conducted by the chaplain as the opening devotional of the final session. Particular reference was made to the service of the late J. Milton Deck, a past president and long time Brotherhood enthusiast.

Mr. E. J. Gallmeyer, a member of the board of directors of the Missouri Synod and Past President of their Lutheran Layman's League spoke on Lutheran Unity. It was a frank appeal for lay fellowship as a basis for future unity. He particularly stressed the movement recently initiated by men of the Missouri Synod, the U. L. C. A., and other synods. Lutheran luncheon clubs are also a factor in mutual understanding.

Fraternal greetings were extended by Mr. Clifford Sandahl for the Augustana Synod. Mr. Sandahl is the editor of the bulletin of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

As the final act of his adminstration, President Speckman gave a stirring appeal for support to the new administration and handed the gavel to President Zeb Trexler.

The convention adjourned and most of the delegates moved on to Cleveland for the U. L. C. A.

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SURE...

Lutheran Men costs more to print

$1.50

is the new subscription price — Ten or more to one address

$1.25

Let's push up that paid subscription list from 8200 to 10,000.

Guest Contributions

Presidential Message . . .

In the name of Christ I greet you, the men of the Church. Of the vital importance of my office as it relates to the continuing welfare of our great Church I am fully conscious.

The challenges of the day are vast and multitudinous. The spirits of men are faltering and their hearts crave guidance. Echoes of concern r e s o u n d everywhere among Church leadership. The tenor of their thinking is for definite and positive action. The tempo of the recent Erie Convention was quickening and challenging.

Tomorrow must be one of action! *We must*

(1) *EVANGELIZE*
(2) *EDUCATE*
(3) *ENERGIZE*

These are our continuing objectives.

To accomplish them we shall seek to better inform our men, for to inform them is to make them more intelligent, and more enthusiastic workers.

To adequately support such a program we shall seek a per capita gift of $1.00 in 1947.

Let us rebuild for Christ!

Jeb Trexler

He Defied the Gestapo – And Won!

By Dr. S. C. Michelfelder

European Representative of the American Section of the Lutheran World Convention

It was hard to believe that this mild-mannered man had the nerve to challenge Hilter's Gestapo and defeat them. But he did, and therein lies a fascinating story.

For years he was a teacher in the Realgymnasium in Dresden, Germany. His home and his classroom were his life. His contribution to educational program, both religious and secular, was appreciated by all. Then came Hitler and his pagan youth, with no room for such a man in their twisted schemes.

On June 15, 1938, the Gestapo descended upon the modest home of Professor Karl Lange and read an official decree. From that moment, he was to be forbidden to teach, write or speak in public. There was no court of appeal. The order was final, or so thought the police.

Before the sound of their stamping feet had died out, however, Professor Lange had decided on a plan to circumvent the order. He had always wanted to do it and never had the time. Now he would take one year to re-translate the Psalter. Every day for a year he searched the Scriptures in Hebrew. With the aid of all the translations he could find, he worked away at his task unceasingly. Most of the time he spent in a quiet mountain cabin where he was undisturbed by the Nazi spies.

Professor Lange returned to his home in Dresden on June 15, 1939, his precious work completed. He called his intimate friends together, and they rejoiced with him on the completion of this great task. But the next morning their joy turned to disappointment for the Gestapo came again. This time they arrested the devout professor, found the precious manuscripts and burned them to cinders before his eyes. Then they threw him into prison.

But "iron bars do not a prison make" for a man like Karl Lange. He prayed for wisdom and patience. He solemnly resolved that if God would give him freedom from prison he would devote another year to translate the Psalter again. He finished his sentence and the day arrived when he walked out, but not before a strong warning was given him that he must never attempt to do such a translation again.

Unheeding the threat, Professor Lange went off to the mountain retreat and started anew. Day after day he worked as he had before. His secret was shared this time only with a trusted friend, a forester who lived near him in the mountains in another alpine cabin. Finally the second effort was rewarded and the text completed.

Then came another blow. Authorities ordered Professor Lange to report for military duties in the "Volksturm." The date was set for him to appear and take the pagan oath. Forbidden to speak or write, he could not be forbidden to pray. For three weeks he wrestled in prayer. No one but God and the forester knew what anguish tortured his soul.

The fatal day, June 15, 1945, drew nearer. On Friday, the 13th, he arose from his knees and calmly told his friend: "Unser Gott kann bauen" (Our God can build walls). That evening it began to snow. It snowed all night and all day Saturday, and when Sunday. June 15th, dawned, snow three feet deep covered the mountain side. They were snowbound and it was physically impossible to go to the village to report. God had built a wall of snow.

The forester and the professor thanked God. Down in the village all the others were inducted. Only the forester and the professor were missing.

In July of 1946. Professor Lange came to Geneva with his manuscript. He wanted to dedicate it to the Prisoners of War and the parents in Germany who would use his Psalter as a devotional book. I am an old man, but I know", he said, "that if Germany is to be rechristianized. we must begin in the family. I will dedicate the remainder of my life to this cause. I want no profit for my work. I want no glory."

The manuscript was offered to the Lutheran World Convention and the World Council of Church for free publication. Plans are now under way to see that this beautiful work of love and devotion will serve the purpose for which it was intended.

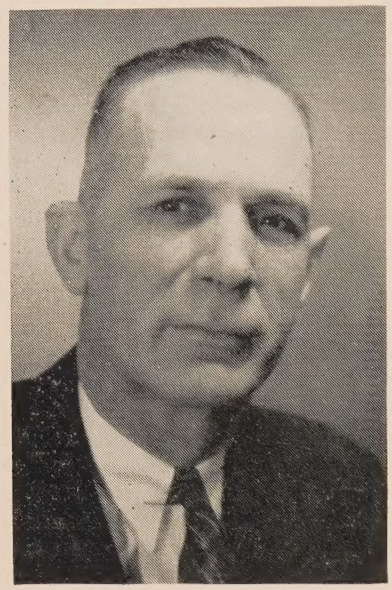
In beautiful German and rhythmic meter each Psalm is now a fervent prayer of devotion.

There are many, many like Professor Lange who believed that "Gott kann Mauern bauen." We must help them to restore the Christian family life in Germany.

N. L. C. N. B.

U.L.C.A. Brotherhood Officers Installed at the Erie Convention

We pledge our hearty cooperation and constant prayers for divine guidance to these brethren who will direct the affairs of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood during the present biennium. A brief biography of our newly elected officers is appended for your information.



PRESIDENT
Zeb Trexler, Concord, N. C.

BORN

October 1, 1889, at Gold Hill, North Carolina.

EDUCATION

Attended Public Schools of Rowan County; Crescent Academy and Business College, Collegiate Institute, Mount Pleasant, North Carolina, and University of North Carolina.

CHURCH

Confirmed in St. Matthew's Lutheran Council and Chairman of the Boy Scout and St. James' Lutheran Church, Concord, North Carolina. Served on St. James' Church Council and Chairman of the Boy Scout and Music Committees, and as Superintendent of the Sunday School. He is the teacher of the Men's Bible Class and a member of the choir.

BROTHERHOOD

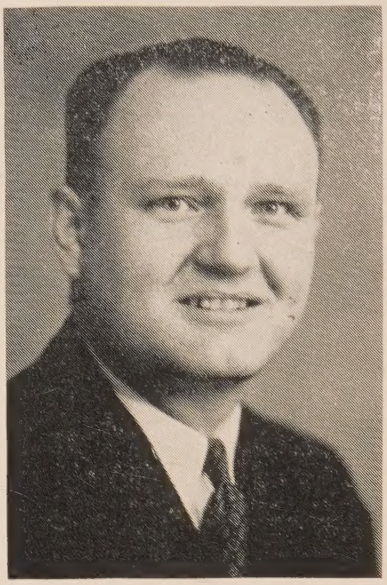
Past President of St. James' Lutheran Brotherhood, Southern District Brotherhood, North Carolina Synodical Brotherhood, and a former Vice President of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood.

OCCUPATION

Mr. Trexler was employed for 20 years prior to 1941, as a sales manager for an automobile concern. For the past five years he has served as the public relations secretary for Lenior Rhyne College, and was elected a member of the U.L.C.A. Board of Publication at the Cleveland Convention.

CIVIC

Member of the Rotary Club.



SECRETARY
W. K. S. Hershey, York, Pa.

BORN

November 16, 1900 in Franklin Township, York County, Pennsylvania.

EDUCATION

Attended rural schools in Franklin and Washington Townships, York County; graduated from Dillsburg, Pennsylvania High School and Patrick Commercial School, York, Pennsylvania.

CHURCH

A member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, York, Pennsylvania since 1919, serving 17 years as Church Councilman; was secretary of the Church Council for 7 years and is now serving his 10th year as Treasurer of his congregation. Mr. Hershey is a member of the Executive Board of the Central Pennsylvania Synod and has served since 1944 as the Treasurer of his Synod. He was elected a member of the U.L.C.A. Board of Pensions at the Cleveland Convention.

BROTHERHOOD

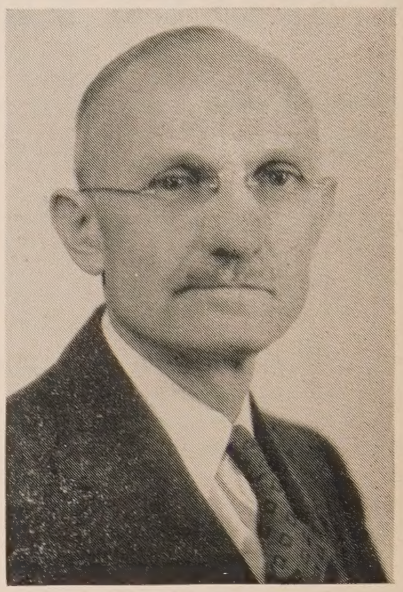
He is a member of St. Matthew's Brotherhood, and is presently serving on the Executive Board of the Central Pennsylvania Synodical Brotherhood.

OCCUPATION

He was formerly employed as a salesman and accountant for the York Corrugating Company and the American Chain and Cable Company, York, Pennsylvania. He is presently serving as the Secretary and Manager of the White Rose Motor Club, which position he has held since 1926.

CIVIC

Member of the York Rotary Club.



TREASURER
William Shetlock, Coplay, Pa.

BORN

February 4, 1892 in Egypt, Pennsylvania.

EDUCATION

Attended Public Schools in Egypt, Pennsylvania. Graduated from Whitehall, Pennsylvania High School, Teachers' College, Kutztown, Pennsylvania and Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania; also attended summer sessions at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania State College. He received his Masters degree from Columbia University.

CHURCH

Member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Coplay, Pennsylvania. Served on the Church Council and as a teacher of the Men's Bible Class for 25 years. Mr. Shetlock served on the Christian Education Committee and is now a member of the Lutheran World Action and Brotherhood Committees of the Allentown Conference. He also served on the Stewardship and Rural Church Committees of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania.

BROTHERHOOD

He has served as Secretary, Vice President and President of the Allentown Conference Brotherhood; also, as Vice President and President of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania Brotherhood, where he is now a member of the Executive Committee.

OCCUPATION

Mr. Shetlock is the supervising principal of the Public Schools in Coplay, Pennsylvania, which position he has held for the past 31 years.

CIVIC

Mr. Shetlock is a member of the Board of Directors of the Crippled Children's Society of Allentown, Pennsylvania, and served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Red Cross of Coplay for a number of years. He is, at present, a member of the Unemployment Committee of Selective Service, Board No. 3 of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

Jottings from a Journal

By Charles Masheck

Because there is so much justice and injustice involved on each side of the capital-labor difficulties that often beset modern industry it is not always easy to espouse the purposes of either side whole-heartedly.

One large corporation reported in a recent dispute with organized labor that "profits have absolutely nothing to do with wages." At first it would seem facetious to take such a statement seriously, yet it may betray the working philosophy behind much of modern business and industry.

Isn't it really a corollary of the old evasion that "religion and industry don't mix" or "don't let your Christianity interfere with your business policies"? So you never determine wages according to profit, but rather by the lowest sum you can pay and get away with. It becomes simply a problem in economics, not a relationship between corporation trustees and the chart showing profit and surplus; not a relationship between corporation trustees and men and women who work to sustain their homes and families.

This is all true if the basis of our relationship with other men is not a moral one. Profits have nothing to do with wages if it is not our duty "to bear one another's burdens and fulfill the law of Christ." But it is neither honest or Christian to detour our responsibilities to one another because the imperatives of brotherhood linger with us. "Love the Lord Thy God . . . and thy neighbor" has a primacy over economic values.

As the profit motive dominates the service motive the moral climate in which men ought to live and labor is gradually transgressed. The evasion of our neighborly duty involves a sure judgment—"Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me."

One consistent purpose of the Church of the Reformation has been to maintain the supremacy of the service motive. The profit motive was never quite so obvious in the Roman Church as it was between the Jubilee year of 1300 and the sale of Indulgences during the time of Martin Luther This distinction still marks the differences in character between the Protestant and Roman Churches.

The quality of our service is determined by the purpose under which we labor. Because we are sinful human beings the motives for our service are rarely pure. They are a peculiar hybrid of love for others and love for self, of an earnest desire to help others and an innate urge to exalt ourselves.

One salesman was boasting about selling an article of furniture to a customer. "It was poorly made," he said, "and the price was too high. She didn't want it particularly, but I talked her into it. All that counts in this firm is cash in the hand."

Compare that with the integrity of the owner of a vegetable stand—"I always try to sell my customers the finest vegetables I can get. If I didn't, I couldn't look them in their faces."

What a false sense of values we often imply when we judge another's position in the social scheme of things. How often we pigeonhole creatures made in the image of God by the materials with which they work. Thus a man who works with ideas is considered superior to a man who works with materials. The architect is ranked above the cobbler. The farmer who works with soil is not in the same class with the superintendent who handles the executive tasks of a large school. The tailor is not to be compared with the statesman or the poet he clothes. Is it not possible for each to be an artist in the particular field in which he labors?

"I enjoyed being in your Church this morning," says a visitor after the Sunday morning service of worship.

While these words are music to a pastor's ear, they reveal an ominous weakness in contemporary Protestant Christianity. "Enjoyment" too often lacks any spiritual depth. It is the catchword of those who are not doers. but hearers only. Worship all too readily assumes the character of an entertainment rather than a means for declaring the glory of God.

If it did not possess an indispensable message to sinful men and sinful society, the Church would be a delightful triviality. Worship might accumulate the importance of a second rate amusement if our lives were not at stake. The Eternal Gospel might become a harmless collection of words if our very souls were not vitally involved with its Truth.

Said Past-President Speckman:

"It is easy to be censorious of politicians these days because their mistakes are so transparent, but when we fail to train Christian statesmen the judgment falls on us. Lincoln Steffens declared in his autobiography that there is a pressing need for Christians trained in the techniques of government and politics.

Men working at the peace conferences deserve our prayers and our goodwill for it is no simple task to find some common ground between men and nations on which the foundations of an acceptable peace may be built. The responsibilities of General Marshall and Secretary of State Byrnes are tremendous and they concern all of us. There is nothing mean in a prayer which yearns for divine help in establishing permanent bonds of peace between the nations of the globe."

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A War of Amazing Kindness

To Build a Mighty Reserve Pile of Grateful Good Will

By Frank C. Laubach

Dr. Laubach is missionary and literacy expert. He has taught thousands to teach their neighbors to read. He is a Christian idealist but who will say his way of peace will not work?

"All the scientists I know are frightened. I write this to frighten you." This statement of Harold Urey, and many another like it by the scientists, have us all more or less scared. When people are panicky they often do the wrong thing, for example in a theater fire. The danger with our Congress right now is that they are TOO SCARED. One columnist says they "have a nightmare."

When a fire gets started in a forest, it is often possible to backfire and prevent its spread. We ought to try backfiring now with a war of amazing kindness. Let's go out and capture the heart of the world by discovering what its wants and needs, and helping it out. There never was such a chance in all history as America has to try this out. Herbert Hoover says the world is in the worst hunger and misery in all history. We are richer than any nation in all history. With this vast gulf between us and the rest of the world, we will be hated as no other nation ever was hated if we do not help the world. We shall be loved as no other nation ever was loved if

we make wise use of this tremendous opportunity to serve. We can build up a tremendous reserve stock pile of grateful good will. Behind that only are we safe, when nobody wants to throw bombs at us.

If we are to do this adequately we must start long range planning right now. UNRRA closes at the end of this year. Starvation and misery and despair will be nearly as great next year as this. If America comes to the rescue, we can conquer the world with loving service. The words: "Let him that would be great among you become the servant of all" applies now, as certainly as two and two make four. Dean Acheson, Acting Secretary of State, says we face five years of famine and that the survival of civilization depends upon our helping the world in these famine years.

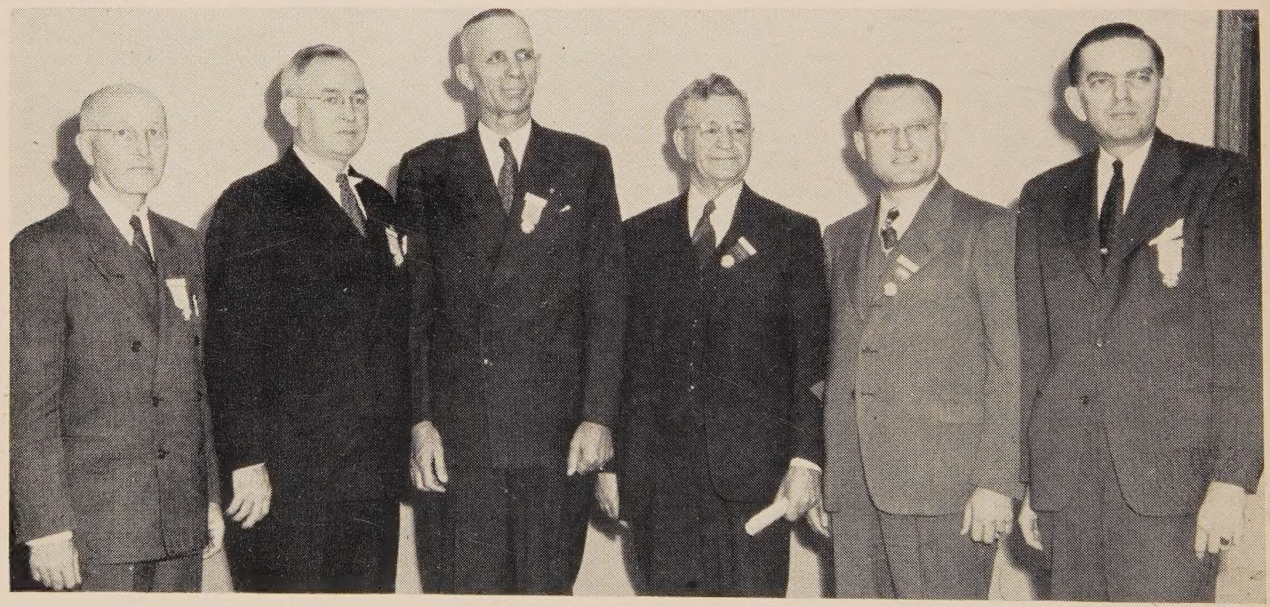
What evidence have we that meeting people's needs makes friends? We know of course that it works in home life. All friendship is based upon thoughtfulness between friends. All business success is based upon pleasing customers. All politicians gain votes by trying to help their constituencies. Every teacher succeeds by trying to help his students; every stuent is popular only if he thinks of others. Every man who rises in his profession tries to serve his employers. But does the same spirit of "Can I help you," win friends between nations?

We tried it in the Philippines, and it worked. The Filipinos could have all the bombs the world will ever make—they will not throw them in our direction. General Carlos Romulo wrote that book about us called "Mother America," which makes us proud and makes us blush, for he overrates America, which he calls "the most generous, the most idealistic, the most lovable country that ever existed."

The reason this makes us blush is because we know WHY we were so generous to the Philippines. It was because we took them by accident and because we did not know they were worth anything. We were fighting to throw the Spanish yoke off Cuba. There was a Spanish fleet in the Pacific. Dewey sank it in Manila Bay. We then had unknown and unwanted islands on our hands. McKinley actually thought of returning them to Spain. Nobody went out to exploit them for many years, because nobody knew there was anything worth exploiting. We sent American school teachers, twenty thousand of them. We sent American missionaries and doctors and American officials. We thought only of uplifting the people. We raised the literacy seventy per cent. We enormously improved their health. We increased the average income "fantastically," we gave them excellent roads. excellent government, freedom. That is why, when Japan struck, the Filipinos remained loyal, the men went to the mountains as guerillas, struck the Japanese from the rear, informed MacArthur exactly were they were, made it so easy for him to recapture the Islands—so that the Philippines became the stepping stone America needed to defeat Japan.

What did all the kind things we did for the Philippines cost us? NOTHING. It all came out of Philippine taxes. The missions cost American churches a few million dollars, but even that was a paying investment. So far as the government was concerned, the Filipinos paid for our officials, our doctors, our school teachers, our agricultural experts. Here was kindness that cost nothing and yielded tremendous dividends.

We tried kindness in China, and it worked. China has the world's largest population, a fourth of the whole human race. The white race started to eat up China piecemeal as they had taken all Africa and all Southern Asia, and all of the Western Hemisphere. (We are likely to forget that Europe once owned every inch of the Western Hemisphere.) China feared and hated the white imperialists for decades. In 1900 the Chinese people rose in a people's revolt called The Boxer Uprising. We helped Europe defeat China—we are ashamed of that now. But we did not allow Europe to tear China to bits. The White allies demanded a tremendous indemnity,



It was difficult to pry the men away from the convention proceedings long enough to secure a picture. Here are six of the brothers caught by a newspaper photographer in the convention hall lobby: Left to right, Harold D. Foster, retiring secretary and now vice-president; Mr. Martin McGrory, reelected to the executive committee; Mr. Zeb Foster promoted from vice-president to president; W. Don Morton, one of the hosts at the Minneapolis Convention and now vice-president; William K. S. Hershey succeeding Harold D. Foster as secretary; William E. Pfister, chairman of the Erie committee.

ten times the value of the property the Chinese destroyed. American missionaries urged the United States government not to take our share of the money. So our government made a scholarship fund for Chinese students—it amounted to 18 million dollars.

Then we prevented China from losing any more territory to Europe. And China has had pathetic faith in us ever since. Every great leader who has kept China true to the Allies—from Sun Yat Sen to Chiang Kai Chek, has been indirectly or directly the result of the scholarship fund, and of mission schools. Here is another investment that cost our government nothing, and has brought returns too stupendous to be estimated. If Japan had been able to cross China and contact Hitler at the Caspian Sea, the axis would have separated the Allies and in all likelihood would have won the war. We saved Europe as well as ourselves by returning an indemnity that it would have been robbery to take.

Liberia in Africa is a proof that it pays to be amazingly kind. After the slaves were freed in 1865, we helped as many of them as desired to return to Africa, because the North had one of those benevolent streaks that the United States gets every now and then. They established their own republic, the only really free country for many years in all Africa. Did it pay? Ask Harvey Firestone, who is raising rubber in Liberia. The United States is now building a harbor at Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, chiefly as a coaling station for our fleet. Liberia was beyond doubt connected with the decision of Felix Eboue, the black Governor of the Chad region, to cast his lot with the Allies. There DeGaulle and the Free French were able to reorganize, keep the Italian Libyan army from joining the Italian Ethiopian army, gave the British a base for sending an air fleet to Egypt, and probably was again decisive in the Axis' defeat in Africa.

We have illustrations to the north and to the south of us, of the wisdom of making friends with kindness instead of keeping them afraid. We almost went to war with Canada just a hundred years ago (1846) over a boundary line. Our war cry was "fifty-four forty or fight." Some of our wiser heads said, "Let's not be fools. They are our cousins." So we gave up what is now British Columbia, which would have joined us with Alaska. We got past that crisis and have long since learned that mutual aid and trust are not only cheaper but far more comfortable. Now we have what Cordell Hull calls an 'unseen frontier of friendship.' "We have accomplished what the cynical world would say could not be achieved." It would be dreadful if we distrusted Canada and she were afraid of us now. All the uranium we have used for atomic bombs came from Canada!

For a century the people of Latin America feared and hated us. "Gringoes" meant monsters to the children of Latin America. President Hoover began an earnest but not wholly successful effort to win the friendship of Latin American countries, and President Roosevelt persisted in that policy. Today the United States is the leader of the Americas. The returns in business and in every other respect have paid for this good neighbor policy hundreds of times over.

The Micronesian Islands in the Pacific, though small, offer us one of the most famous illustrations in the world of how much it pays to help needy people, and turn enemies into friends. An American soldier writing from these Islands during the war said: "Thousands of us owe our lives" to the fact that these former cannibals are now Christians and our friends. They warned us when the Japs were near, fed us and cared for us when we were wounded, carried us back to our lines when we were lost. During the last century missionaries have been pushing into those islands, risking their lives. John G. Paton and scores of other missionaries were cooked by the cannibals and eaten. But they conquered every island with the love of Christ. Guadalcanal was invaded by missionaries and converted since the first World War. The miracle is that those former cannibals are now, next to North America and North Europe and Japan, the most literate people in the world.

My own experience in introducing scientific literary methods throughout much of Asia, Africa and Latin America, has been amazing proof to me that it is easy to help the world if we go with something they want, and that in the process we can easily win the world's heart. Every country in the world has given me a warm welcome and appreciation far beyond the value of my services. What amazes me is how easy it is to help people if you offer what they both want and need. If we go to every corner of the world with the technical skill in which we excel and which the world lacks, we can lift the world from destitution to abundance, from desperation to happiness, and can be so loved as no nation in all history has ever been loved. It is so EASY, and so CHEAP. and so CHRISTIAN.

The most amazing illustration of the result of amazing kindness, is Japan. And the most striking fact is *not* Japanese gratitude, but the effort of Japan to *outdo us* in being kind. Many are doing it no doubt to get an easy peace, and many are doing it because they are amazed at our kindness to a conquered people. This is something they had not believed possible. They are electrified. Very well. If they win our hearts and we win their hearts that will be wonderful! A new phenomenon on earth! In all history there has been no transformation like this in one brief year.

This suggests the philosophy behind our kindness plan. If we try to win the heart of the world, openly and unashamed, by discovering their needs and meeting them with our technical skills and our tool machinery, they will begin to treat us kindly in return, and we shall see a rising crescendo of good will. Other nations will try to outdo us in being kind. Russia will go "soft" toward the other countries. She is doing it already. So will England and France and so will everybody. The war of amazing kindness will be on—the backfire against the atomic bomb will make the world safe. Or would you rather have war—and annihilation? For the danger is all in men's minds, and we can win men's minds by the world-old and the thoroughly Christian method of being kind.

So many gods, so many creeds,
So many paths that wind and wind;
While just the art of being kind
Is all this old world needs.

(For more copies of this address, write Dr. Laubach, 156 Fifth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

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Said Past-President Speckman:

"Brethren, a Boy Scout Troop Leader is a potential Brotherhood Leader. We must encourage and promote this movement if we are to operate as an effective and useful auxiliary of the Church."

The Executive Secretary's

MONTHLY MESSAGE

MR. EARLE W. BADER, 62 East Garrison Street, Bethlehem, Pa.

Echoes from the Erie Convention

"Rebuilding For Christ" was the theme for the 15th Biennial Convention of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood held in Erie, Pennsylvania, October 2-3-4, 1946. From the Opening Service in Luther Memorial Church on Tuesday evening to the closing of the convention on Friday afternoon, there was an atmosphere of good fellowship and a keen interest in the proceedings by all of the brethren. There were 213 delegates and visitors registered from 24 Synods of the Church.

The formal opening of the convention was preceeded by a Brotherhood Officers Conference on Wednesday afternoon. Upwards of sixty Synodical and Conference officers participated in the Conference. The discussions centered around the merits of the two financial plans that were to be considered by the convention. President Franklin Clark Fry, D.D., New York City, President of the U.L.C.A. was an interested listener as our officers presented their views on this important matter.

All of the convention sessions, including the Fellowship banquet were held in the Masonic Temple which afforded the use of a beautiful auditorium, and every possible convenience for the comfort of the delegates.

There was one disappointing note in the convention, when all of the Erie newspapers were forced to close their printing plants due to a strike on the opening day of our meeting.

The eloquent convention addresses and devotional services conducted by the Rev. J. H. Reble, D.D., President of the Canada Synod, kept our delegates in a high state of spiritual fervor and provided a background for the all important business of the convention. The impressive candle-light Boy Scout investiture service and the awarding of the **Pro Deo et Patria** medal and citation to Scout John Howard of Meadville, Pa., will live in the memories of those fortunate enough to be present.

The convention opened on Thursday morning with the stirring challenges of Rev. Beckstrand and President Fry still ringing in their ears. They were truly "Men with a Mission" who had come to Erie with one purpose uppermost in their minds. That the convention must find the financial means to expand our program and services to the Synodical and congregational brotherhoods as well as the church at large.

Space will not permit a detailed report of the convention proceedings which will be included in the official minutes. A letter giving the highlights of the meeting was mailed to more than 4,300 pastors and congregational brotherhood presidents for use at their Brotherhood Sunday Services.

By far the most important actions of the convention were the following:

1. The election of Brother Zeb Trexler, Hickory, N. C. to serve as President of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood.

2. The adoption of a One Dollar per capita annual dues for each member of our congregational Brotherhoods.

3. The increase of the individual and bulk subscription rates for LUTHERAN MEN by 25 cents starting January 1st, 1947. This will make these rates to read as follows: Individual Subscriptions—$1.50 per year; and bulk subscriptions in lots of 10 or more at $1.25 each per year when mailed to one address.

Viewing the Erie convention as impartially as is possible under the circumstances, we must all agree that the Holy Spirit was guiding our thinking and planning for the future of our organization.

* * *

Resolutions Adopted by The Erie Convention

WHEREAS: In the Providence of Almighty God we have witnessed the end of the destruction of life and property caused by the second World War since our last Convention, and

WHEREAS: This period of reconstruction is the church's opportunity to manifest the power of the Great Head of the church, even Jesus Christ our Lord, to heal the wounds of war in the minds, souls, and bodies of His people, and

WHEREAS: We recognize our opportunities in the theme of this Convention to "rebuild for Christ" the physical and spiritual structures throughout the world that have been ravished and destroyed, and

WHEREAS: The Brotherhood is committed to the ask of promoting the programs and projects of the church, many of which have been brought before us with great urgency and emphasis,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That this 15th biennial convention of the Brotherhood of the U.L.C.A. convening in Erie, Pa., re-affirms its loyal devotion to Christ and the church, and urge upon its constituents dynamic action in the enlistment

Harold D. Foster Suffers Fatal Heart Attack

Word has been received that brother Harold D. Foster died very suddenly from a heart attack while he was horseback riding near his home on October 23rd. The funeral service was held in the Messiah Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, Pa., on Saturday, October 26th.

Brother Foster served for the past four years as Secretary of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood and chairman of the Boy Scout Committee. He was elected a Vice President of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood at the Erie Convention, and was elevated to the Presidency of the Central Pennsylvania Synodical Brotherhood at their annual meeting at Gettysburg, Pa. on October 19th.

His passing will be mourned by a host of friends in all sections of the Church who were associated with him in the promotion of Boy Scouting and work of the Brotherhood.

We extend our Christian sympathy to the bereaved family in their time of great sorrow. A complete biography of brother Foster will appear in the next issue of LUTHERAN MEN.

of all possible means and energy in carrying on the special tasks of the church thru evangelism, boys work and Christian Stewardship, working toward the union of all Lutheran bodies that our church may be united and strengthened in these common tasks.

2. That we extend our sincere thanks to all participants on the Convention program, all of whom have striven and succeeded thru information and inspiration in impressing the Convention theme upon our hearts and making this one of the best conventions in Brotherhood history.

3. WHEREAS: Our Heavenly Father has called our friend, brother, and co-laborer, J. Milton Deck, to his eternal reward on July 3rd, 1946, and

WHEREAS: The Brotherhood of the U.L.C.A. is mindful of the loss of this faithful servant of our Lord, because of the noteworthy and valuable service he so unselfishly rendered to the church through the Brotherhood for many years, and at the time of his departing, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: By this 15th biennial Convention of the Brotherhood that we give thanks to Almighty God for the life and work of Brother Deck, as he constantly sought to serve the Lord and his brethren in Christ through the church, the Brotherhood and the American Federation of Lutheran Brotherhoods.

That we bow in humble submission to His will in removing from among us one who has guided the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood in its progress and achievements as president and as a member of the Executive Committee, and whose counsel and encouragement shall be missed by these with whom he co-labored.

That we consecrate ourselves anew to the tasks which Brother Deck held so dear, and pray our Saviour and Leader of men to raise up many leaders among us that by their devotion to Christ and the church we may in a measure bring to function His labors and earnest endeavors.

That we extend to Brother Deck's bereaved wife and daughter and to his brother our deepest sympathy, with our earnest prayers for God's care and providence in their remaining lives.

That we recognize the tributes paid to Brother Deck by President Speckman and Executive Secretary Bader in the September 1946 issue of LUTHERAN MEN as further expressing the high regard in which our departed brother was held by officials, pastors and laymen throughout the U.L.C.A.

That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Mrs. Deck and daughter Helen, and also to Brother B. Franklin Deck.

4. That we especially recognize the presence of the president of the U.L.C.A., Dr. Franklin C. Fry, in our midst, and thank him for his inspiration; that he be remembered in our prayers that God may grant him strength and wisdom to successfully pursue the duties and tasks of his office as he seeks to serve the church here and abroad.

5. That we express to Dr. Amos J. Traver our thanks for his presence and fellowship among us and commend most highly his faithful and efficient editing of LUTHERAN MEN, which is now recognized as the outstanding laymen's magazine in all Protestant denominations.

6. That we thank God for the lives and the Christian service rendered in the Master's name by those brethren in the congregational Brotherhoods who have departed this life since our last gathering. Especially are we grateful for the example of leadership of the sainted Dr. F. H. Knubel, President of the U.L.C.A., for the first 26 years of its history and a sympathetic and loyal friend of the Brotherhood.

7. That being informed of the fact that 32% of the confirmed membership of the U.L.C.A. does not participate in holy communion and the fellowship of divine worship, that we reemphasize our first three objectives and give full support to the special program of the Board of Social Missions in "reclaiming lapsed members," and that a report of this action be made to the Cleveland Convention of the U.L.C.A.

8.That since the terms of the present officers of the Brotherhood expire with this convention by constitutional limitation, the assembly rise in tribute to the tireless effort and sacrificial spirit as well as the splendid leadership of these servants during the past four years.

9. That we gratefully acknowledge the courtesies, efficiency, and hard work of the local convention committee and extend our thanks to the churches, laymen, and organizations who contributed to the success of this convention and trusting that all who participated may have received similar blessings to those enjoyed by the delegates to this convention.

10. In the face of the picture painted by our church leaders which reveals that the position of our brethren in the faith is so precarious as frequently to hover over life and death of body and soul, and since it is plain that in this critical hour adequate help can come only from Lutherans in America, we must rise for a tremendous witnessing of our strength and sincerity.

The $10,000,000 Lutheran World Action goal is but a small sum in the light of immediate urgent needs. We note that many congregations have set a remarkable example by already exceeding their two year goal; however, we regret that this is offset by the large number of congregations which have done little or nothing for this cause. WE BELIEVE THAT GOD WILL NOT BLESS — NOR WILL OUR GENERATION OR SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS RESPECT A CHURCH WHOSE MEMBERS, LIVING IN RELATIVE PLENTY, MAKE EXCUSES WHILE THEY ARE INDIFFERENT TO THE ACUTE SUFFERINGS AND NEEDS OF THEIR BRETHREN ABROAD.

In 1942 the Brotherhood in convention at Louisville endorsed and adopted Lutheran World Action as its action. In such a critical situation words without deeds are both empty and cruel. Therefore, we again call upon the Brotherhood, all laymen's organizations, and each man in every congregation, to press vigorously for the immediate raising and surpassing of the LUTHERAN WORLD ACTION minimum goals, so that our church may be reinvigorated and virile at home and abroad, and that each member may experience the joy and satisfaction of having kept the faith with his Lord and brethren.

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Christian Tasks and Brotherhood Responses

We are happy to announce the topics that will be presented in LUTHERAN MEN starting with the January 1947 issue. We are also listing the writers who will prepare the respective topics.

JANUARY—**Fostering World Missions**—Topic prepared by the Rev. Fred J. Fielder, D.D., Secretary of The Board of Foreign Missions of The United Lutheran Church in America.

FEBRUARY—**Guiding Boys to Christian Growth**—Topic prepared by the Rev. A. E. Iverson, D.D., Director of Protestant Relationships for the National Council of Boy Scouts of America, and until recently, the Executive Secretary of the Brotherhood of the Augustana Synod and the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

MARCH—**Extending the Church at Home**—Topic prepared by the Rev. S. E. Engstrom, D.D., Executive Secretary of the Board of Home Missions of the Augustana Lutheran Synod.

APRIL—**Caring for Our Own**—Topic prepared by the Rev. Ralph H. Long, D.D., Executive Director of The National Lutheran Council.

MAY—**Developing Christian Family Life**—Topic prepared by Mr. Mauritz N. Ranseen, Credit Manager of a large Chicago firm, and a consecrated and influential laymen of the Augustana Lutheran Synod.

JUNE—**Promoting Higher Christian Education**—Topic prepared by the Rev. Conrad Bergendoff, D.D., President of Augustana College and Theological Seminary.

JULY—**Practicing Christian Citizenship**—Topic prepared by the Hon. Harold E. Stassen, President of the International Council of Religious Education, and former governor of Minnesota.

AUGUST — **Strengthening Christian Fellowship**—Topic prepared by Mr. Knute Myklebust, a successful business man of Longview, Wash., and a consecrated worker in The Brotherhood of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

SEPTEMBER—**Providing Leadership in Parish Education** — Topic prepared by the Rev. Arthur H. Getz, Editor of The Parish and Church School Board of The United Lutheran Church.

OCTOBER—**Re-thinking Brotherhood Work**—Topic prepared by the Rev. C. Oscar Leonardson, Executive Secretary of the Brotherhood of the Augustana Lutheran Synod.

NOVEMBER—**Expressing Thanksgiving through Thanks Living**—Topic prepared by the Dr. Clarence C. Stoughton, Secretary for Stewardship of The United Lutheran Church, and Executive Director of the Lutheran Laymen's Movement for Stewardship.

DECEMBER—**Sharing Men's Needs**—Topic prepared by the Rev. C. E. Krumbholz, D.D., Executive Secretary of the Division of Welfare of the National Lutheran Council.

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Lutheran Men At Silver Bay

By Lois K. Dickert

Appoximately 600 Lutherans came together during the week of July 27th to August 2nd. The Lutheran Summer School for Church Workers of the United Lutheran Synod of New York was under the chairmanship of the Rev. Hugo L. Dressler of Buffalo, N. Y., Dr. Chalmers E. Frontz acting as director of the School, and Dr. Paul C. White as dean. The Rev. John Sprock, pastor of Epiphany Church in the Bronx, was the School's chaplain. Dr. Frederick R. Knubel, presenting Brotherhood Work, led the daily conferences for pastors and laymen. The emphasis at these sessions was centered on the evangelism and stewardship programs of the Church, especially in relationship to the local congregation. Dr. Knubel was assisted by the Rev. Ray Kulman of Saugerties, N. Y., who is associated with U. L. C. A. Board of Social Missions as its director of the program to reclaim lapsed members. This was the fifteenth anniversary year of the school.

Conference Faculty

The general theme of the Conference was "The Lutheran Church in Today's World". In developing this theme Judge James F. Henninger, a member of the U. L. C. A. Executive Board, conducted a course for the specific purpose of aiding young people to understand the basic beliefs of our Church and thus become intelligent Church workers. Another important phase of the theme was discussed in classes under the leadership of Dr. Paul C. Empie, director of Lutheran World Action, who gave a full survey of the Lutheran Church and the world today, inspiring Lutherans to share in the building of tomorrow's world.

Other leaders, dealing still further with the general theme, were the Rev. Willam S. Avery, associate Secretary of the Parish and Church School Board, who spoke for the enlistment of more children for our Sunday Schools; Dr. Hugo C. M. Wendel, professor of history at Long Island University, who presented a history of the growth of the Lutheran Church; and the Rev. Joseph W. Frease, executive Secretary of the Luther League of America, who dealt with the problems and responsibilities of the Luther Leagues of the Church. The mission program was presented by Miss Hazel Naugle, our missionary to India, home on her first furlough, and by Mrs. Gertrude Lawrie of New Britain, Conn. Of the total enrollment in the School 350 men and women received credit for their work in these courses.

New Courses Presented

A new feature was added to the regular curriculum in the "workshop" courses. For these courses members concentrated on doing the actual work. The workshop course in recreation was under the direction of the Rev. Harold Haas, pastor of St. Paul's Church, Linden, N. J. His group planned and executed social events in which the entire School participated. Another of these courses was in Church publicity. Members of this course automatically became staff members of the "Punkee!", the School's daily paper. Another section of this group was concerned with publicizing the Conference among the whole Church family by means of its widely-circulated publications. The new venture in practical experience was a successful and helpful addition to the School program.

Dates Set

On Tuesday, July 30th, the Synodical Committee on Parish Education met at Silver Bay. The dates for next year's conference were set for the week of July 28th to August 1st, 1947.

Inspiration and Strength

Lutheran men received at Silver Bay the highest inspiration of God's Word as presented by some of our finest Church leaders and of God's nature as found in the tremendous beauty of the setting. The zealous, shining spirit prevailing in quiet moments of worship, in happy hours of work, in the joy of Christian fellowship will stay with them as they return to their local congregations to further the work of the Church. With the world waiting to be fed the Word of Christ, Lutheran men need the strength and inspiration to be found in an experience at Silver Bay to help meet with world's demand.

Letterally Yours

Bible Lexicography

by Pastor Roger G. Imhoff

HOLINESS . . .

is to be praised,
is as a mountain,
was declared of Christ,
becometh the Lord's House,
becometh behavior,
is fruit of God's servants,
maketh hearts unblameable.

●

Publicity Welcome!

Houston, Texas
August 18, 1946

Dear Editor:

The Brotherhood of the Texas Synod, is embarking on a program to strengthen and enlarge our missionary work.

In connection with this program, it is our desire to write some articles to be printed in the LUTHERAN MEN. I am enclosing the first of these articles for your approval.

Your cooperation in helping us promote our new project will be greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Yours very truly,
V. L. Schmidt,
Publicity Chairman

The Brotherhood of Texas Synod

The Seventeenth Annual Convention of the Brotherhood of Texas Synod blossomed forth in the month of May with the theme "Ecclesia Plantanda", and followed through with its theme, "The Church Must Be Planted", by adopting four specific requests, which are as follows:

1. Permission to appear before the Texas Synod at its next meeting with a proposal that a full time missionary be employed to occupy and develop new mission fields in Texas.

2. That the Texas Synod make a direct appropriation from its treasury to start a fund to be used for the support of such a missionary.

3. That the Texas Synod increase its apportioned benevolence 50 per cent to meet the expense of a field missionary. To this end the Brotherhood of the Texas Synod pledges its support in actively assisting Synod in meeting its increased apportionment in full.

4. That an executive secretary be appointed by the president out of the membership of the Brotherhood whose duties it shall be (a) to appoint a key man in each local Brotherhood and consult with Pastors as to key men in those congregations which have no Brotherhood. (b) To plan and conduct an educational program designed to meet the benevolence in full.

These requests were brought before the Convention of Synod and were approved. The question of whether we should have a paid president and missionary was debated and finally placed into the hands of committee to decide. We are happy that Rev. J. F. Vorkoper, of Harlingen, Texas was appointed field missionary for the Texas Synod.

Dr. James P. Beason, President of the California Synod, spoke at both Brotherhood and Synod Conventions. His sermons and talks were inspiring and instructive. They seemed to contain what was needed to give our program a good start.

The history of the Texas Synod as summarized by Pastor Vorkoper is not very encouraging, but it points out that most of the trouble is within our own camp. We realize that in order to have a strong United Lutheran Church in Texas, two definite barriers must be broken down.

1. A large percentage of the people in this Synod confine their thinking to the problems within their own parishes.

2. The people of Texas Synod do not fully understand the program of operation of the Board of American Missions.

The first problem is nothing more than isolationism. Its solution is entirely up to us. The second problem is almost impossible for us to handle. Many of the churches in Texas are classified as missions and some of them have old sores which we cannot heal alone. Dr. Beason, did much to inspire us to solve this problem, but it is not enough. We believe if a more unified effort could be developed for a better understanding of each others' problems, much would be accomplished. Can we not apply the words of Christ, "Give and it shall be given unto you" to thoughts as well as money? Perhaps if we try to understand our fellowman, we may get a better idea from him or perhaps it is the middle-of-the-road thought we need. There is no man alive from whom we cannot learn something, if we take the time to find out what it is or what he has that we can use or need.

Our country is enjoying the greatest period of prosperity in its history. Statistics show that the per-capita wealth is higher than it has ever been. This wealth is there to be had *if we have something to give.*

It is with these thoughts in mind that we strengthen our missionary work in Texas, to give to others what we have, and to have them give us what we need; a larger *UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.*

Publicity chairmen are urged to use LUTHERAN MEN. *Publicity must recognize the time element. For instance copy received by October 1st will appear in November issue. After October 1st, it must wait till December issue. It should also be of general interest. If you are working a plan in your Brotherhood tell the rest of the Brotherhood about it.* *Ed*

●

August 28, 1946

Dear Editor:

We note that the June topics suggested for brotherhoods was the challenge to strengthen women's work in the Church. This topic suggests cooperation on the part of the Brotherhood for the outstanding work that is performed by the women of the Church, particularly in their missionary societies. We should like very much to enlist the interests and if possible, the support of the Lutheran Brotherhood in the Lankenau School.

This school has had a long and honorable career, being founded in 1899 and for 52 years was located in close proximity to the Philadelphia Motherhouse of Deaconesses and adjoining the Lankenau Hospital. Neighborhoods change, as they do most noticeably in large cities. It was therefore thought advisable four years ago to continue this fine school for girls in a suburban location. The school was moved to a group of houses on a very fine estate of close to 19 acres, and dormitories and classrooms were improvised in several of the large residences on the grounds. The school accommodates approximately 45 boarding students and 100 day students. Ever since the school has been in this location there has been a waiting list, and it now becomes apparent that improved physical facilities are necessary.

The School Board, while predominantly Lutheran, is an independent one not directly connected or receiving any financial support from any church body. The school is under the direction of the deaconesses. In fact it is unique in the fact that it is the only secondary school in the country conducted under such auspices. A sound scholastic education with a strong spiritual emphasis is offered to girls from pre-school through high school.

We should like very much to have the interest of the Brotherhood in this fine institution, not only in a prayerful manner but if you are so led, in a financial one as well. Our goal is to celebrate the 60th anniversary with improved physical facilities, as well as endowments to cover scholarships for the daughters of Lutheran missionaries, and to provide funds for hardship cases and the rehabilitation of the present buildings and campus. Our goal is $500,000 and pledges may be spread over one, two or three years.

We are approaching the Presidents of the colleges in this area, as well as the Secretary of the ULCA, the Presidents of the sourrounding Synods, and judges and prominent businessmen to act as sponsors for our school. The only piece of literature prepared up to this time is a brochure entitled "A Greater Lankenau" a copy of which we are sending you under separate cover.

We would appreciate your consideration and active interest and support of this fine school, which with its highly Christian standards is needed so much today in the education of our girls who will be leaders of tomorrow.

Should you wish any additional information, we would be happy to supply it, and as you will have your convention simultaneously with that of the ULCA in Cleveland, the writer, who will be a delegate to that convention, will be glad to talk to you at that time.

Sincerely yours,
Albert E. Koch.

Words

Words have always been an interesting study. A fairly recent help to word history and analysis is "A Dictionary of American English" by Cragie and Hulbert. It is in four volumes and answers about every possible question regarding words. It was surprising to find that we have more words borrowed from the Spanish than from any other language. The words "anglophobe" and "anglomania" were coined by Thomas Jefferson, not by the Chicago Tribune. Eloquent and erudite Daniel Webster first said "Go the whole hog." "Let her rip," "Let off steam" and phrases as expressive, came from river boating days. That our language is never static one easily learns as he listens in to the conversation of a group of American youth. The Spectator, columnist in "The Lutheran Companion" adds these negative definitions to the sum total of word information:

Inaccurate definitions. — A quiet dresser is not one who says nothing when he loses his collar button and it rolls under the bed and hides in the darkest corner.—The Mosaic law is not a set of rules governing the laying of floors with colored stones.—A maiden speech is not the vocal effort of a man who feels girlish.—An apiary is not a cage where monkeys are kept.—An inebriate is not necassarily an imbecile.—A melodrama is not a musical play.—Flatuency does not describe an emaciated physique.—A ratline has nothing to do with a procession of rodents, nor does a catwalk indicate a trysting-place for felines.—Neither dogma nor doggerel has any canine connotations.—A cowry is not a bovine stall, and a cowslip is not a diminutive of a domestic animal.

A release

from the American Bible Society tells of their effort to supply Bibles for Japan. Says the release:

The photographs for the Japanese Bible plates have arrived in New York from Tokyo through the assistance of a chaplain of the Army of Occupation. These negatives appear to be all that is left of the Japanese Bible plates suitable for present reproduction. Electros will be made by the American Bible Society from line cuts. These will be sent to Japan after conditions return to normal, as far as printing and binding are concerned. The Bible Society is planning a printing of 100,000 Bibles for Japan.

There is only one answer to this question! They must be the result of a plan you select during your earning years.

Tomorrow's dollars have a magic power to overcome today's worries — for with the assurance they will be at your disposal, you can plan to later do the things you most enjoy — to travel, to read the books you have been too busy to look at, to pursue your hobbies, to spend long hours with friends and neighbors.

It's the soundest sort of satisfaction to know that you can retire — and that when you do, there will be an adequate income waiting for you — that will come to you every month as long as you live. A Lutheran Mutual Retirement Income policy will provide such an income at age 60 or 65.

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OLD-LINE INSURANCE EXCLUSIVELY FOR LUTHERANS

● **Department Editor: REV. EARL S. RUDISILL, Ph.D., D.D.**
Associate Secretary of the Parish and Church School Board
1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, 7, Pa.

Educating Our Feelings

Human feelings have a long history. They are older than reason. And the older any phase of human nature the stronger it is, and the more effort is required for its control. The emotions of man have proved about as hard to tame as wild horses.

Observation reveals that the latest-acquired powers of human life are the first to crumple up and disappear under attack. The experience may be temporary or permanent. The attack may be illness, the influence of alcohol, fatigue, or the decline of old age. The finest phases of intellectual judgment are the first to fade out. Later reasoning, perception, the building and using of ideas, memory, and imagination lose their strength and clearness, and some of them may completely break down. But despite all of this, the feelings and emotions will remain just as strong as ever. These facts of deterioration and survival are known as the "law of regression." And that law testifies of the enormous power of the feelings and emotions.

Feelings Are Allied With Urges

Our strong experiences of pleasantness and unpleasantness, excitement and depression, tension and relaxation are tied up with strong inborn urges. The two are generally experienced together. Professor McDougall outlined the combinations in the following way: fear and flight, disgust and repulsion, wonder and curiosity, anger and pugnacity, subjection and self-abasement, elation and self- assertion, and the "tender emotion" and the parental instinct. The complete scheme as worked out by McDougall included a number of other combinations.

While a great many of these urges have considerable strength in their own right that power is reinforced by the old and powerful emotions which go with them. It is not difficult to understand, then, why the emotions and the inherited urges are such unmanageable agents. And the "law of regression" helps us to realize why they maintain their strength through the years.

What do these facts mean for the religious education of adults? They indicate a number of things, not the least of which is the long-drawn-out struggle of humans to bring these fiery steeds under control. Ofttimes the question is asked, At what age does one get full control of his feelings and emotions? There is no such age. The battle to bring them completely under bit and bridle is a lifelong contest. The control should become better and better, but it is too much to expect that it will ever be perfect within the lifetime of a human being.

Education for Control

These powerful impulses and feelings will control us if we don't control them. They vary considerably in strength. Some may need encouragement, but most of them call for throttling down. They have to be dealt with as we handle undesirable habits. With all the resolution and power God gives us, we need no substitute calmness of mind and action for the wild, primitive, crude, explosive expression of the emotons. And we'll have to stay on the job until we have measurably succeeded in tempering their most frenzied outbursts. This is a job for everyone of us himself. No one else can do it for us, though they may be able to assist.

We may obtain help from other persons by observing how well they have placed reason and spirituality in the driver's seat. A good example is often helpful. What someone else has done we too can accomplish—if we want to. On the other hand, someone may, by his rudeness, exhibit to us such a repulsive picture that we'll not want any of it. Even the worst example may prove helpful, in a negative way.

Maturity, in the best sense, requires a generous measure of control. Lack of it in a full-fledged adult is a lapse into childishness. The spoiled child feels that he can get his own way by way of tantrums, and a small proportion of adults try the same trick. How mature are we? How mature can we become?

Loves and Loyalties

Control of feelings is a rather negative thing. It is a ruling out of the most undesirable features of emotional expression. It clears the way for some fine positve developments. Relative control is a good beginning. but only a beginning.

The feelings can attach themselves to almost anyone or any cause. They need to become inter-linked with God, Jesus Christ, the church, virtue, persons, and great causes. Unless we give ourselves to the higher and better things, it is probable that we'll gradually get interested and attached to less worthy ones, perhaps to some that are utterly unworthy of a Christian.

Out of such tie-ups come the great loyalties of life—loyalties to God, church, wife, husband, family, parents, friends, community, country, the kingdom of God, and all humanity. These are qualities which grow, and which need guidance and inspiration. They thrive on expression. Worship, service projects, visitation, fellowship, study, meditation, planning, and recognition of the presence of God everywhere are the sort of experiences that help us change our crude feeling into refined, spiritual-minded loyalty and devotion.

Appreciation

Our feelings are the qualities of experience out of which we build appreciations of beauty, truth, and virtue. Appreciation is setting a value upon something and deriving satisfaction or joy from it. Beautiful pictures, sculptures, architecture, mountains, rivers, valleys, prairies, oceans, faces characters, and souls—all of these we can learn to appreciate. Most of all, we ought to learn to appreciate persons, those who are like us, and those who are different—of different races, colors, political persuasion, social outlook, and religious convictons.

Appreciation is one of the very highest attainments in religion and in life.

Topic of the Month

● Department Editor. REV. ARTHUR H. GETZ
Secretary of the Parish and Church School Board
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The Challenge To Be Grateful

Topic for December, 1946

AIM: To express gratitude to God through song and prayer for the gift of the Saviour ;to recall in gratitude the servants of God, pastors and laymen, through whom our lives were blessed; and to take some definite steps to express our gratitude to faithful servants of God who are still in our midst.

NOTE: A careful reading of the aim stated above will indicate that this month's meeting might well be divided into three parts. A separate chairman could be appointed to take care of each of these three parts as follows: (1) a chairman to take charge of the worship, adapting and enriching the outline below according to local situations; (2) a chairman who will serve as leader in recalling local leaders, ,present and past, who have rendered outstanding service to the congregation and the Kingdom of God; and (3) a chairman who will take the initiative in providing suitable expressions of gratitude for those who should be remembered in this season of gift giving.

The Topic

Because worship is one of the three main sections of the topic this month it should receive especially careful attention. The following candlelight service will be effective only if careful and detailed arrangements are made well in advance of the Brotherhood meeting. Those who are to take part in the service should have an advance rehearsal, so that everyone will know exactly what he is to do. The candles and other necessary properties should be on hand. A chorus of men should be trained to lead in the singing. Other suitable musical numbers may be substituted for those suggested below.

The Candlelight Service

Organ or Piano Prelude, "Noel" (old French carol), by Harker

Hymn, "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"—No. 450 C.S.B., or No. 330 P.S.H.

Invocation: Our Father in Heaven, we come to thee with grateful hearts because thou hast sent thy Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to be our Saviour. Through him we have forgiveness of sins and a fellowship with thee even now that is a foretaste of the perfect fellowship which we shall have with Thee in heaven. We thank Thee for the Saviour, and we thank Thee that we have been brought to a knowledge of the Truth and the Way of Life. Let the light of Thy holy Word ever shine within us. Keep us from the ways of sin and darkness. Hasten the day when Thy children everywhere will possess the truth as it was revealed in Christ Jesus, that they may rejoice with us in the possession of the Saviour. Guide us as we engage in worship this night, and open our hearts to the influence of Thy holy Word as it is read and sung. Through Jesus Christ we pray it. Amen.

Announcement by chairman: Tonight our worship will consist of a symbolic service entitled "The Light of the World". The Light referred to is of course Jesus Christ, the Saviour. Our symbolic service will begin with a Scripture passage and hymn which emphasize the promise of the Saviour to come. As the Scripture passage is read the lights in the room will be extinguished. There will follow Scripture readings which indicate the coming of Jesus Christ, at which time a specially prepared star will be illuminated. The early life and ministry of Jesus, the true Light of the world, will be described by Scripture passages and depicted by the lighting of twelve candles representing the twelve apostles. The sending of this light of Jesus Christ to the four corners of the world will be depicted by the lighting of four candles which will be carried to the four corners of this room. There will follow Scripture passages to show how love is the medium of the light. Finally the light will be carried to all the world by missions, which will be depicted by (four) members of the Brotherhood who will light the candles of those who are seated at the end of each aisle, and they in turn will pass the light on to their neighbors, until all members of our group, representing the whole world, will possess the Light of the world. The symbolism of the lights will be interpreted not only by the Scripture reading but also by the hymns which will be sung by all of us during the service.

(The following Scripture lessons should be read by the chairman or other person in charge of the service. He should take his place at a table or reading desk near the front of the room. A hooded light should provide just enough illumination for him to read the Scripture passages.)

The Promise of the Saviour (lights turned out): "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising" (Isaiah 60:1-3).

Hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"—No. 1 C.S.B., or No. 1, P.S.H.

The Coming of the Light of the World: In his story "The Other Wiseman", Henry van Dyke tells how the wisemen were looking for the coming of the Saviour. Each night they studied the stars. Then one night Artiban beheld a light in the heavens which he felt betokened the coming of the king. At first tiny and remote, that star grew and grew until Artiban was sure it was the sign for which he had been looking. He bowed his head in reverence. "It is the sign", he said. "The king is coming, and I must go to meet Him".

"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, there came wisemen from the east to Jerusalem, saying Where is he that is born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these thngs he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And when they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star (star illuminated) which they saw in the east went before them, till it come and stood over where the young child was" (Matthew 2:1-4, 9).

Hymn, "Brighest and Best of the Sons of the Morning"—No. 39 C.S.B., or No. 47 P.S.H., stanzas 1, 2, and 3.

Life and Ministry of Jesus: "And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: and there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Mark 1:9-11).

"Then spake Jesus unto them, saying, I am the light of the world (the large master candle is lighted by a member of the Brotherhood): he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

"Then Jesus said unto them, yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light" (John 12:35-36).

Hymn, "Light of the Anxious Heart"—No. 46 C.S.B.

Handing the Light to the Twelve: "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick. and it giveth light unto all that are in the house (twelve candles representing the twelve apostles are lighted from the master candle which represents Christ). Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16).

Hymn, "O Light, Whose Beams Illumine All"—No. 373 C.S.B., stanzas 1 and 5.

Spreading the Light: "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:8). (Four persons light their candles from the master candle and go to the four corners of the room, representing the spreading of the Gospel to the four corners of the world).

Hymn, "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"—No. 212 C.S.B., or No. 279 P.S.H., stanzas 1, 4, and 7.

Love Is the Medium of the Light: "Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past and the true light now shineth. He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes" (I John 2:8-11).

"Beloved let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another" (I John 4:7-9, 11).

Hymn, "O Lord of Heaven and Eearth and Sea"—No. 385 C.S.B., or No. 283 P.S.H., stanzas 1, 6, 7, and 8.

Light Spread by Missions: "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:18-20). (Four "missionaries" light their candles from the master candle, and then pass on the light to all members of the congregation by lighting the candles of people sitting at the ends of aisles, and they in turn passing the light on to those sitting next to them, until the candles of all are lighted.)

Hymn, "Joy to the World"—No. 34 C.S.B., or No. 19 P.S.H.

Their Blessings Rest Upon Us

Every congregation has had outstanding servants of God, pastors and lay workers, through whom the lives of others have been blessed. In the Christmas season we like to think of all our friends and remember them with some greeting—at least a Christmas card. Would it not be well for members of the Brotherhood to pause a moment to think of the spiritual leaders, past and present, who have enriched their lives and the lives of other members of the congregation? Let the chairman plan some suitable recognition and expression of appreciation. Possible suitable forms of recognition would be:

1. Prepare and distribute mimeographed sheets bearing the title, "Through Them Our Lives Were Blessed". Under this title could be listed the names and a few facts concerning outstanding leaders of the congregation, past and present. The chairman should be careful to explain and stress that the list is not complete, and that no effort has been made to include the name of every present worker of the congregation. Only two or three living leaders should be included—people who are respected and loved by all the other members of the congregation because of their outstanding Christian service.

2. Invite the honored guests to attend the meeting, and give them special seats. During the meeting the chairman may introduce these workers and say a few words about the service each is rendering, as well as a word about leaders of the past who cannot attend the meeting. If this plan is followed all present official leaders can be included.

3. In some cases the recognition should be confined to pastors, past and present. In this case the chairman may say a few words about each of the pastors, indicating the outstanding contributions they made to the life of the congregation and its members.

Our Gifts of Gratitude

Christmas time is gift giving time. An increasing number of congregations are using this season of the year to express their gratitude to God for the spiritual ministrations of pastors who have faithfully served the church. Here are a few ways in which such gratitude may be expressed:

1. Present a special Christmas gift to the pastor.

2. Present a Christmas gift to some retired minister or minister's widow.

3. Send a special gift of money to the Board of Pensions and Relief, so that the board may give greater assistance to aged and retired ministers.

4. Make arrangements for your pastor to join the contributory pension plan if this was not previously done. The article in the current issue of LUTHERAN MEN, by Mr. George L. Rinkliff, under the title "Pensions for Ministers" indicates some of the reasons why every pastor should be enrolled in this plan.

If a committee was appointed last month to report on "Our Christmas Plans" that committee should be given an opportunity to present its report at this time, and any necessary action should be taken on the recommendations presented.

Assignment of the Project for the January Meeting

Cf. the article, "Our Share in World Missions," in the current issue of LUTHERAN MEN.

Cf. also the article, "Our New Venture in Co-operation."

Hymn, "Come Hither Ye Faithful"—
No. 21 C.S.B., or No. 16 P.S.H.

Lord's Prayer and Benediction.

Fellowship and refreshments.

Our Share in World Missions

Project for the January Meeting

The romance and thrill of world missions have been discovered anew by many who served in the recent war. Returned soldiers by the thousands are ready to bear testimony to the value of missions. This increased interest should be capitalized, and every effort should be made to make the January topic study practical and helpful. The topic at that time will be. "Fostering World Missions". In preparation for the January meeting as many of the following projects as possible should be carried out. The chairman should make definite assignment of some of these projects.

1. Write to *your* Board of Foreign Missions and ask for copies of "Foreign Fields of Lutheran Churches in America", which contains a world map on the first page. Ask for a copy for each member of your Brotherhood, and arrange for distribution at your meeting. Appoint one member to be prepared to present a brief digest of the folder, stressing such facts as the total number of missionaries, the number of native (national) workers, pupils in schools, baptized membership in missions supported by Lutherans in America, and the total sum sent abroad by all Lutheran Boards in America.

2. Get a large map of the world, and also maps of China, India, Africa, and South America, and have someone prepare himself to point out mission fields as they are discussed.

3. Invite a veteran of World War II who visited a mission station to speak at the meeting and give his impression of mission work.

4. Ask several members of the Brotherhood to come to the meeting prepared to tell what they learned about missions through news received from soldiers who were in mission areas.

5. Ask several members of the Brotherhood to bring to the meeting lists of countries in which Lutheran mission work is carried on, these lists to be made up from the combined information received in their families without reference to any other material on the subject. Then check these family lists with information contained in the topic material.

6. Plan to make mission news a regular subject for three to five minutes on each month's program. Select one or more members to have charge of this project. The reporters should receive the missionary magazine published by *your* Board of Foreign Missions.

7. Procure from *your* Board of Foreign Missions a list of possible missionary projects which a group of men or an individual might be able to sponsor. Take the necessary steps to have your Brotherhood sponsor one of the suggested projects.

●

Pensions for Ministers

By George L. Rinkliff

Mr. Rinkliff is full-time Treasurer of the Synod of Ohio. He is the author of a number of books in the fields of Church history and Stewardship.

Any individual who has even a fair knowledge of conditions within the United Lutheran Church has some familiarity with the case of the retired minister. He will, upon reflection, recognize at least this much:

(1) The ministry affords little or no opportunity for the accumulation of material wealth.

(2) Faithfulness in the ministry involves financial sacrifices that are greater than those of most other people.

(3) Quite often when a minister reaches the age of retirement he and his wife face the most acute financial problems of their entire lives.

(4) It is the responsiblity of the church to do good to all men, particularly to those who are of the household of faith.

The above is so well-known that to restate it is merely to rehearse the trite and commonplace. But the commonplace is often a very serious matter. The problem of how the minister may live after retirement is one of these serious matters.

Pension Plans Grow

America, within the twentieth century, has grown steadily in pension-mindedness. We have come to recognize that whenever anyone renders a useful service he is entitled to more than his immediate pay; he also has a vested interest in the whole social and economic structure that has been benefited by his service. He is therefore entitled to some kind of deferred payment when his capacities for usefulness are lessened and when he can no longer render services which bring payments that are adequate to meet his needs.

We now have in operation in America many pension systems in which the principle above stated is recogized and applied. But we of the United Lutheran Church cannot be charged with headlong haste in applying this principle to the retirement problem of our ministers. We started, in 1918, when the United Lutheran Church was organized, with rather small provision for the retirement of miisters. In 1928 an effort was made to do better. We established a pension system by which ministers, upon retirement through age or disability, were to share in the earnings of an endowment fund that was at the time created. To such earnings were to be added funds received from the United Lutheran Church apportionment.

Non-Contributory and Contributory

For some years now, under this system, all ministers upon reaching the age of 65, and relinquishing active service after at least 20 years in the ministry, have been receiving $25.00 per month. their widows $16.66 per month, and any dependent children $8.33 per month. Approximately two-fifths of such payments have been coming from earnings of the endowment fund, and three-fifths from apportionment receipts.

Such payments, while far better than nothing, are clearly inadequate. The hopes which many cherished at the time of the creation of the endowment fund have not been realized. Developments since 1930 have been disappointing for all institutions dependent upon endowments. Income from endowments has been reduced to nearly one-half the rate of yield in the 1920's. Even under improved economic conditions this situation gives little promise of improvement.

We of the United Lutheran Church did not rush headlong into any pension system, and it is the personal conviction of the writer that we were not always as keen in our thinking as some other Christian groups in America. Within the memory of the writer the first group to undertake pensioning of ministers on a realistic basis was the Episcopalians. Soon others were following. Each group established a contributory pension sys-

tem by which pensions were provided through the accumulation of savings contributed by the minister and supplemented by an equal or greater contribution from the congregation. Last of all among the larger Christian bodies of America, both Lutheran and non-Lutheran, the United Lutheran Church adopted such a plan. There was one advantage in being last. We were able to profit by the experiece of all the others, and beyond question we made good use of that opportunity. The contributory pension plan for our ministers compares very favorably with any other in existence.

Idealism vs. Realism

No one knows better than the writer that in the minds of some people any contributory pension plan is lacking in idealism. The ideal, they say, is a situation in which the church freely pours out of its treasury sufficient funds to provide amply for the old-age needs of ministers, without any contributory features being involved. But the United Lutheran Church has tried this plan, and it provides only $25.00 per month for retired ministers. However much that may be regretted, however strong may be the appeals to do better, until something takes place that so far has not happened, and for which no definite promise now is apparent, retired ministers are being left to get along on $25.00 per month under a plan which some recommend as the ideal. I frankly say that does not satisfy whatever idealism I may have.

Last fall I heard a minister arise to bemoan this very situation. He confessed a deep mortification of spirit when he contemplated the situation of retired clergymen among the Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, and others, and then found that retired ministers of our own church were receiving so very much less by way of pensions. "Why is this?" he demanded, and then pointed to the Pension Board of the United Lutheran Church as remiss in its responsibilities. He should have known why, before he spoke. He was comparing the results under contributory pension plans with the results under our own unique non-contributory pension plan.

To my mind the idealistic, and also the common-sense practical thing to do, is to provide the best means possible by which ministers can be assured adequate pensions. When I find, as I have found beyond any doubt in my own mind, that such an end can and is being achieved under contributory pension systems, I consider that a long stride toward achieving the ideal. When I find in addition, that only under a contributory pension system are adequate results reasonably assured, and when I know that the non-contributory plan has been tried and found wanting, I have no choice but to prefer the contributory pension plan.

To my mind the kind of idealism the church always needs is the idealism that seeks for and utilizes the workable ways that accomplish the highest aims of the church most effectively. On that ground I conclude that in the matter of pensions for ministers in the United Lutheran Church our ideal should be first of all adequate pensions for ministers, and secondly such means of providing them as in actual, everyday, realistic experience have been proven to be best.

●

Worldwide Bible Reading - Universal Bible Sunday

A Worldwide Bible Reading program to be observed between Thanksgiving and Christmas, sponsored by the American Bible Society, is announced by Dr. James V. Claypool, newly appointed director of the Society's department for the Promotion of Bible Use.

The Bible-reading program is a plan to get people all over the world to read the same Bible selections daily between the two days, November 28th and December 25th, and has as its central day, Universal Bible Sunday, December 8th. The theme, selected for the 1946 program is "The Word of Power for a Power Age" and the 28 daily readings feature some of the "Spiritual Pioneers" of the Bible who found in its pages help for the problems that crowded the life of those days.

Last year people in over 20 nations shared in the reading. The program, inaugurated by the Bible Society in 1944, was the outcome of a letter sent by a lonely young marine in Guadalcanal, asking his mother to join him in reading each day, at the same time, a similar passage of Scripture.

A Laymen's National Sponsoring group assists the Bible Society in the promotion of the program. Members of the committee this year include Norman Corwin, Joseph E. Davies, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Harvey S. Firestone, Miss Helen Keller, Admiral C. W. Nimitz, Drew Pearson, the Hon. Francis B. Sayre and Channing H. Tobias.

Every available method of distribution is sought by the Bible Society in making the bookmarks, listing the daily passages, easy of access to those planning to join in the daily readings. The bookmarks are also available in quantity, to anyone who is interested in helping to promote the program, from the American Bible Society, New York, or any of its branch offices. It is expected the distribution of the bookmarks will top last year's high of 20,000,000. During the war years, members of the U. S. Army and U. S. Navy formed a large bulk of the readers participating in the daily program, the bookmarks being supplied to them by their chaplains in all parts of the world. This year the members of the Occupation Forces will be reached in a similar way. The material will also be distributed by the Society's office in Geneva, Switzerland, as well as its other foreign agencies.

Packets of material for the observance of Universal Bible Sunday, December 8, have been mailed to approximately 115,000 pastors. These include an appropriate poster, bulletins for church calendars, and a brochure "The Book That Has Power" written by the well-known Sunday school writer and columnist, Dr. William T. Ellis.

The Word of Power for a Power Age
Not by might nor by power but by my spirit, saith the Lord.
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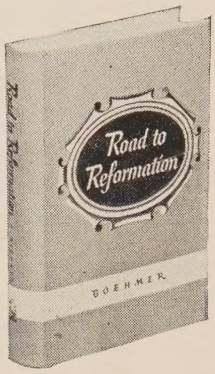

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